## CUT MOTION No. 14

### Cinchona, Wattle etc., Plantations in the Nelliampathies

**Mr. V. J. Mathai** *(Planters):* Sir I move *to reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,051 for B. Salaries and Establishment by Re. 1.* The object of my motion is *to bring to the notice of the Government the necessity for starting an experimental Station in the Nelliampathies for experimenting on Cinchona, Wattle, Cloves, Fruit-trees such as oranges, apples, pears, etc.* So far as Cinchona is concerned it is tremendously an urgently needed commodity. The prices of quinine have gone up from Rs. 15 to Rs. 200 or more a lb. and it is a commodity which we require every day. We get quinine out of cinchona. The Hon'ble Minister I know is taking some interest in the matter and experiments have already been conducted.

The results I hope were encouraging. Therefore an experiment on the possibilities of cinchona has already been conducted. Then with regard to the starting of an experiment on the cultivation of wattle—Mnay hon'ble members may not know what this wattle is. I may say for the information of the House that wattle is a tree from which you extract the bark to make what is necessary for tanning leather. We have been getting it from Africa. When these things can be cultivated here wherein lies the necessity of importing it from other foreign countries? An experiment may just be made by planting a few trees in a small area and see whether we can grow that here. So far as Cinchona is concerned the experiment is complete. Government can straight away go into the cultivation of Cinchona if they are so minded. So far as planters are concerned they will not be in a position to conduct these experiments. It is only a Government that can conduct experiments. So far as Cinchona is concerned, the prices may one day come down. It is only a Government that could undertake such risks. At the Malakkippara Estate just on the boarders of Cochin an experiment with 1,000 acres is being conducted by the British Government in Cinchona. In the oriental Estates also of which I was a Director there are nearly 30,000 trees in their nursery. Then I come to cloves which every householder requires. We are bringing all the quantity required for us from Zanzibar. I ask why should we bring it from Zanzibar when you can grow the same here? I was told that in Chowwara there are clove plants. I have the flowers from these trees in the green state.

Then there is also the possibility of growing fruits such as oranges etc.,

**Mr. K. Narayana Menon** *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Are monkeys afraid of oranges?

**Mr. V. J. Mathai** *(Planters):* They are only afraid of their glands being taken away.

Many fruit trees can also be successfully grown there. In fact good oranges are being reared there. I am sure the Government will accept this motion.

**Mr. T. Narayana Menon** *(Conservator of Forests):* The subject-matter of this motion does not strictly come within my Department. As a matter of fact experiments have been conducted by the Agricultural Department in some of these products. I would like to bring to the notice of the House that this cut motion comes strictly within the purview of the Agricultural Department.

**Mr. T. K. Nayar** *(Minister for Rural Development):* As the Hon'ble Member just now said, an experiment has been made in Cinchona cultivation in an area of about half an acre. It is now only two years. Plantations are growing very vigorously and I have no doubt that the plantations will thrive well. But the whole difficulty is that we will be getting the yield only after 8 years. I am not speaking of the Russian method. After two years you can pluck the whole plant and extract quinine from it. But the quantity you get then will only be very little. On a wide plantation basis you will be able to get cinchona only at the end of the 8th year. That will be the first crop. It is got by cutting away the tree at the end of the 8th year and after that from the stud some plants will again crop up and after four years the second crop is got. At the end of 12 years the cinchona plants will be demolished and you must have another fresh plantation. That is how I was able to study the whole position. The average cost of cultivation per acre comes to about Rs. 1,350 in twelve years. In the first year it will be Rs. 377 or roughly Rs. 400 and the remaining expenditure will be spread over a period of 11 years. At the end of the 7th year you will be able to get the first crop. Yon can get some quinine after two years. But it is only very negligible.

**Mr. Joseph Petta** *(Adur):* How much can be extracted.

**Mr. T. K. Nayar** *(Minister for Rural Development):* At the end of the 4th year you will be getting 1 lb. per acre. That is the estimate from Mr. Wilson's report.

**Mr. Joseph Petta** *(Adur):* What is the price now.

**Mr. T. K. Nayar** *(Minister for Rural Development):* In the black market it costs something like 1,000 rupees per lb. Ordinarily it used to cost only Rs. 15 or so.

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**Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese** *(Chief Medical Officer):* We are getting quinine from the Government of India at very cheap prices. I think the cost now comes only to Rs. 27 or so. The pre-war rate is only Rs. 15.

**Mr. T. K. Nayar** *(Minister for Rural Development):* In a plantation basis if you want to get quinine you will have to wait for 8 years. At the end of 8 years we would be able to get about 100 lbs. per acre. Then in the 12th year another 50 lbs. also can be be got. Altogether in the course of 12 years we will be getting 150 lbs. of quinine. It of course depends on the fertility of the soil.

Apart from all these things the question that has to be considered by us is whether after the war will there be a demand for this quinine which we will be producing. That is the question that has to be considered. I hope the House knows that 97 per cent of the quinine for the whole world consumption comes from Java. I am sure after the war the whole quantity will be dumped into the market and I do not know whether we will be able to find a market. The whole question was gone into some three years ago and it was finally decided by Government that without getting a definite assurance from the Government of India to find a market for the quinine that is produced in our State it will be rather venturesome to enter into such a scheme. Then it was decided to experiment the scheme on this half acre. No doubt it is thriving well. But the question is whether should we risk ourselves. That is the whole question. The House passed a resolution to this effect and it was my duty to implement the scope of that resolution. I may just say for the information of the House that even now I have not entirely dropped the idea and I am seriously looking into the matter. If the Government are to venture on this scheme they should have at least 500 acres Otherwise it would not be worth while because the overhead charges will be every high. We have to construct buildings and erect the necessary machinery for the extraction of quinine. All these questions will have to be gone into seriously.

Personally I would very much welcome the idea of an orchard cultivation at Nelliampathies. I have not visited the Nelliampathies myself till now. But I mean to go there during the month of Chingam. I have asked the Agricultural Department to look into that question and even now I have a report from an expert regarding orchard cultivation. I can assure the Hon'ble Members that if possible something in the line will be done early next year. I can only give this assurance because I am a lay man in the line. I am trying to get down some expert also to visit the place and I hope to receive expert opinion in the matter.

**Mr. V. J. Mathai** *(Planters):* It has been stated by the Hon'ble Minister that he will be going into the question. Hence I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

*Motion by leave withdrawn*

## CUT MOTION No. 15

### B. Form License for Timber and Fuel

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കെ. നായർ : *"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 33,458 for establishment by Rs. 3* (സ്വന്തം സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും സ്വന്തം ആവശ്യത്തിന്നായി മുറിച്ചു മാറ്റേണ്ടിവരുന്ന മരം, വിറകു് മുതലായവയ്ക്കു് B. Form പാസ്സു വേണമെന്നുള്ള നിയമത്തിന്റെ ഇന്നത്തെ പ്രവർത്തനംമൂലം ഉണ്ടാകാവുള്ള ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകളെ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ പെടുത്തുവാൻ)". ഇതാണു് എന്റെ ഉപക്ഷേപം. സർ, ഈ B. Form പാസ്സു് എന്നുവെച്ചാൽ എന്താണെന്നു് അറിയാത്തവർ ഒരുപക്ഷേ ഈ സഭയിൽ പലരും ഉണ്ടായേക്കും. കാരണം കൊച്ചീരാജ്യത്തെ എല്ലാപ്രദേശങ്ങളിലും പ്രവർത്തനമുള്ള ഒന്നല്ല ഇതു് എന്നുള്ളതാണു്. ഷൊർവന്നൂർ നിന്നു പുറപ്പെട്ടു കൊച്ചിയിലേക്കു വരുന്ന തീവണ്ടിപ്പാത തിരുവിതാംകൂർ സംസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ അതൃത്തിയിലെത്തുന്നതുവരെയുള്ള പ്രദേശങ്ങളുടെ കിഴക്കുഭാഗത്തുള്ള പ്രദേശങ്ങളെ ബാധിക്കുന്ന വനനിയമങ്ങളിലാണു് ഈ ബി. ഫാറം പാസ്സിന്റെ പ്രവർത്തനമുൾപ്പെട്ടുന്നതു്. സ്വന്തം സ്ഥലത്തുനിന്നു് കുറെ മരമോ, വിറകോ മുറിച്ചു മറ്റൊരു സ്ഥലത്തേക്കു മാറ്റണമെങ്കിൽ ഈ B. Form പാസ്സു് ആവശ്യമാണു്. B. Form പാസ്സു് ഫോറസ്റ്റു് ആക്ടിലെ ട്രൻ-ം ഢ-ം വകുപ്പുകൾ പ്രകാരമാണു് നടപ്പിൽ വന്നിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ആരാണു് മരം കടത്തുവാൻ പാസ്സു് ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നതു്, മരത്തിന്റെ അളവെത്ര, അതിന്നു വല്ല അടയാളമുണ്ടോ, ഏതു സ്ഥലത്തേക്കു്, ഏതു വഴിയിൽക്കൂടിയാണു് കൊണ്ടുപോകേണ്ടതു്, എത്ര ദിവസത്തിനകം കൊണ്ടുപോകണം എന്നിവയാണു് ബി. ഫാറം പാസ്സിലെ ഉള്ളടക്കം. മരമോ, വിറകോ മുറിച്ചു ശേഖരിച്ചശേഷം ഇങ്ങിനെയൊരു പാസ്സെഴുതി ഫോറസ്റ്റിൽ താഴെയല്ലാത്ത ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ

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